

Excess of Income over Expenditure.....	<u>£5,959</u>	<u>£5,549</u>
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(1) Basis of Accounts

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

(2) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off fixed assets over their expected useful lives, by reference to original cost or subsequent valuation at the following annual rate: Projection Equipment, 10% on cost.

(3) Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated net realisable value.

2. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Publications Fund		Bird Atlas of Uganda Fund
	1996	1995	1996
Balance at 1 January 1996.....	3,330	—	—
Sponsorship received.....	—	—	2,488
Donations.....	337	2,400	—
Income Tax Recovered.....	—	800	—
Interest—Gross.....	200	130	109
Balance at 31 December 1996	<u>£3,867</u>	<u>£3,330</u>	<u>£2,597</u>

HERBERT STEVENS TRUST FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1996

	1996 £	1995 £
General Fund		
Balance at 1 January 1996.....	162,791	143,841
Loss (1995: Profit) on sale of investments during the year.....	(1,102)	8,629
Increase on Revaluation of Investments at 31 December 1996.....	10,886	10,321
Balance at 31 December 1996.....	<u>£172,575</u>	<u>£162,791</u>
Represented by:		
Investments at market value.....	172,575	131,855
Current Assets: Midland Bank SARA.....	—	30,936
	<u>£172,575</u>	<u>162,791</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF
THE BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

We report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 1996.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Prince Albert House
20 King Street
Maidenhead, Berks
30 April 1997

DONALD REID & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

Approved by the Committee on 20 May 1997
D. GRIFFIN, Chairman

Noteworthy records and range extensions of some birds from the Reserva Natural del Bosque Mbaracayú (Mbaracayú Forest Nature Reserve), Departamento de Canindeyú, Paraguay

by *Alberto Madroño N. & Estela Z. Esquivel*

Received 12 October 1995

Introduction

The Reserva Natural del Bosque Mbaracayú (RNBM or Mbaracayú Forest Nature Reserve) is one of the few remaining areas of humid subtropical Atlantic Forest in Paraguay. This "Atlantic-type" forest is a westward extension of the true Atlantic forest of southeastern coastal Brazil and is sometimes referred to as "Bosque Paranaense" (Cabrera & Willink 1973, Laclau 1994), "Bosque Atlántico del Interior" (FMB 1994) or "Brazilian Interior Atlantic forests" (Dinerstein *et al.* 1995). We refer to it as the Paraguayan Atlantic forest for being part of the Endemic Bird Area of the same name (EBA B-52: see Wege & Long 1995, also ICBP 1992). The remaining Paraguayan Atlantic forest has a tremendous conservation value as it still holds populations of several threatened and near-threatened birds, including some endemic to the Atlantic forest (Brooks *et al.* 1993, Madroño N. & Esquivel 1995, Lowen *et al.* 1995, 1996a,b).

The RNBM is centred on 24°08'S, 55°25'W in the Departamento de Canindeyú, northeastern Paraguay, c. 10 km east of the town Villa Ygatimi. It has an almost rectangular shape of 57,715 ha with the northeastern corner contiguous to the border of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. On the eastern side, another adjoining fraction of 5487 ha of mainly *campos cerrados* brings the total protected surface to 63,202 ha. The greater part of the reserve (c. 85%) is forested (tall, medium, low, flooded and gallery forests), although there are other natural communities as well, including grasslands, marshy areas, lagoons etc. To date, no detailed botanical inventory work in the reserve has been compiled other than CDC's (1991) general description of its different natural communities and Keel *et al.* (1993) who studied tree and shrub composition of several sample plots at one locality within the RNBM, concluding that the area studied was a top conservation priority in eastern Paraguay.

Typical trees of the higher canopy include: *Astronium fraxinifolium*, *Aspidosperma polyneuron*, *Tabebuia heptaphylla*, *Albizia hassleri*, *Peltophorum dubium*, *Anadenanthera colubrina* and *Balfourodendron riedelianum*. Some of these trees can reach heights of up to 30–35 m. In a medium stratum the tall forest has trees up to 20–25 m such as *Chrysophyllum gonocarpum*, *Diatenopteryx sorbifolia*, *Helietta apiculata*, *Myrciaria* sp., *Holocalyx balansae*, several species of Lauraceae,

Cabralea canjerana and introduced *Citrus aurantium*. The low strata are mainly composed of shrubs that normally reach 4–8 m. Common species at this level are *Sorocea bonplandii*, *Inga marginata*, *Pilocarpus pennatifolius*, *Trichilia* spp. and *Piper* spp. The ground cover varies considerably from one place to another, but ferns of many types, Rubiaceae, Bromeliaceae and grasses are very common (more details on different habitat types in the reserve will be published in Lowen *et al.* in prep.). In the main text, we also often refer to *cerrado* of Aguara Ñu, this being characterised by a mosaic of savanna (with varying concentrations of *Butia* palm), pure grasslands, and to a lesser extent xerophytic woodlands that generally surround the more open areas.

The RNBM is drained to the west by the upper Jejuí'mi river, a tributary of the Paraguay river. It is an area characterised by gently rolling hills mainly composed of soft sedimentary rock weathered into sandy soils of low fertility. There are also (in less extent) patches of red clayish soils which are generally more fertile and more commonly found to the east in the Parana river basin. The entire area is generally between 150–300 m above sea level. The annual rainfall is 1600–1800 mm (1800 mm in 1995 at Jejuí'mi), with a dry cold season (between July and September) and a wet hot season (between October and February). Temperatures are highest during the summer months (December–February), with an average daily temperature of 27°C in January and maximum temperatures unlikely to surpass 38°C. During typical winter months (July and August) daily temperatures average 17°C, but temperatures can drop considerably (even below 0°C, with an average of 4–5 frosts each year; Acevedo *et al.* 1990).

Most of the information provided in this article is the result of 162 days of fieldwork completed between July 1994 and June 1995, which in most cases was conducted by both authors together (*c.* 300 man-days of field work and *c.* 1800 man-hours in the field). Fieldwork was distributed evenly over the year in order better to understand year-round changes in the bird community composition and activity patterns (to be published). Most bird species breed mainly in spring (September–November), but our knowledge of breeding seasons of many species in the reserve is still very limited. Records provided by other ornithologists are fully credited in the text. For a few species we cite records obtained after June 1995. For those species on which we give our opinion regarding their status in the RNBM (e.g. uncommon, rare, etc.), this is based upon our experience in the field up to February 1996 (which in total includes some 200 days in the field for each of the authors).

This paper summarises some of the most interesting records during this period. They have been chosen for their importance in contributing to current knowledge of the species' distribution or status, or because there are few records either in the entire country, or in Oriental Paraguay ("Orient" in Hayes 1995), "Central Paraguay" geographical region (as defined by Hayes 1995: 19) or the Dpto. Canindeyú. Some of the species are threatened or near-threatened (following Collar *et al.* 1994), in which case T (threatened) or NT (near-threatened) has been added in brackets after the scientific name.

Although not necessarily mentioned under each species account, our knowledge of previous records is mostly derived from the exhaustive monograph on the birds of Paraguay by Hayes (1995), whose taxonomic order is followed. Readers are also referred to Madroño N. & Esquivel (1995) who provide additional noteworthy records for the RNBM that complement the information presented here.

Coordinates (latitude and longitude) are given for each record, and have been obtained either using a Geographic Position System (*Pathfinder Basic Plus*, Trimble Navigation) or from a 1:50,000 scale map (Mapa Geográfico Militar) in combination with black and white 1:50,000 aerial photographs (see below). Coordinates without seconds (") have been obtained from the map and we are certain that the error should not exceed ± 500 m. For visual records, we used Zeiss 10 \times 40 and Vision 10 \times 50 binoculars. Unless otherwise stated, records below were made by both authors. Place names are followed by coordinates the first time they appear, but not when mentioned later.

Species accounts

HOOK-BILLED KITE *Chondrohierax uncinatus*

There are few records from Oriental Paraguay; the records below are the first for Dpto. Canindeyú. One bird seen by AMN in flight on 16 September 1994 (24°07'54"S, 55°31'36"W), and another (possibly the same) on 29 Sept 1994 (24°08'03"S, 55°31'44"W). Further observations in August and September 1995 suggest that breeding may occur in RNBM.

RUFIOUS-THIGHED HAWK *Accipiter erythronemius*

Neither Hayes *et al.* (1994) nor Chesser (1994) include this species as an "austral migrant" (either "northern austral migrants", i.e. birds that breed in Paraguay and migrate north in winter, or "southern austral migrants", i.e. birds that nest farther south and winter in Paraguay). On 10 March 1995, no less than 15 birds were observed flying north (c. 24°07'S, 55°31'W), with an obvious migratory behaviour (AMN and P. Donahue). Cold light winds from the south seemed to facilitate migration as other raptors, such as 12 Swallow-tailed Kites *Elanoides forficatus*, were also part of the same loose mixed group.

BLACK-AND-WHITE HAWK-EAGLE *Spizastur melanoleucus* (NT)

Hayes (1995) lists up to four records for Oriental Paraguay. The unspecified observations of the species in RNBM (Madroño N. & Esquivel 1995) are as follows: one bird soaring close above the forest canopy on 3 September 1994 at 24°07'29"S, 55°26'43"W (AMN) and a perching bird on 26 May 1995 at 24°07'52"S, 55°31'26"W (EZE). Another perching bird was observed at Jejuí'mi (24°08'03"S, 55°31'44"W) on 6 April 1995 (P. Donahue). The species seems to be rare in the reserve, where the authors have only recorded it twice.

ORNATE HAWK-EAGLE *Spizaetus ornatus*

There are many records for the country, but none made with certainty since 1939 (an undated record from Parque Nacional Cerro

Corá is the only possibility; see Hayes & Scharf 1995), and none has ever been recorded in Dpto. Canindeyú (see Hayes 1995). The species has now been recorded at RNBM, where a bird was observed flying high, calling, on 14 and 15 February 1995 at Horqueta'mi (24°08'10"S, 55°19'21"W) by both authors and forest ranger S. Ramírez, and on 11 April 1995 at 24°07'37"S, 55°31'01"W by AMN. Indigenous Aché hunters know the species from the area, reporting previously finding at least one nest. The scant number of records suggests that the species is rare in the reserve.

BLACK HAWK-EAGLE *Spizaetus tyrannus*

Hayes (1995) regards the species as "hypothetical" for the country, adding that "further documentation is needed before this species can be accepted for Paraguay". Our records at RNBM confirm its occurrence in Paraguay (unless otherwise stated, observations took place at Jeju'i mi in 1995 and refer to a single bird calling in high flight): one silent bird carefully observed over five minutes on 25 October 1994 at 24°08'40"S, 55°31'34"W (AMN, D. Pullan and R. Denny); two birds seen soaring high together in November 1994 (R. Clay); briefly observed on 17 March; 20 May (AMN), 21 May, 3 June (AMN), 13 June (forest ranger N. López) and 20 June (low flight, AMN) 1995. An additional record of the species occurred at Lagunita (24°08'04"S, 55°25'42"W) on 13 September 1995, where a bird was observed and its call tape-recorded (AMN, EZE and many other ornithologists of the joint Anglo-Paraguayan "Project Yacutinga '95").

A local resident, E. Caballero (now working at RNBM for the Fundación Moisés Bertoni), informed us that a few years ago, while sitting in a *mangrullo* (a hunting platform) south of Lagunita (c. 24°09'S, 55°25'W), he observed a large black eagle (presumably a Black Hawk-Eagle) that took a Brown Capuchin monkey *Cebus apella* from the upper canopy.

Birds have been heard giving a single long whistle lasting about 1.5–2 seconds, rising slightly and then falling quickly at the end. Another variation incorporated three fast short whistles preceding the longer call described above or interspaced between two long calls, this resembling the description given in Sick (1993) and also birds heard in Brazil, Ecuador and Panama (R. Clay verbally). Additionally, full descriptions were taken and the birds conformed to the literature, notably fitting Canevari *et al.*'s (1991) colour illustration of the species.

SUNGREBE *Heliornis fulica*

There are only two confirmed records and five undated, unconfirmed reports in Paraguay, all from Oriental Paraguay. Acevedo *et al.* (1990) list the species as if it was present in RNBM, but this was probably a guess, the species not being listed for the reserve in any of the unpublished lists (e.g. CDC 1991, FMB 1992). We have, however, observed/heard the species on several occasions at the Jeju'i mi river between 24°08'S, 55°31'W and 24°10'S, 55°30'W. On 23 November 1994 an adult bird was persistently calling, and also observed, at 24°09'33"S, 55°30'24"W. The species seems to be uncommon, although

probably has a healthy population along the Jejuí'mi river within the reserve.

RED-LEGGED SERIEMA *Cariama cristata*

Hayes (1995) does not include the species for Central Paraguay. It is present, however, in the Aguara Ñu *cerrado* in the easternmost part of the reserve (mainly 24°08–17'S, 55°15–17'W). Recently, after a large fire took place in the above-mentioned area, a single bird was observed on 12 and 14 October 1994 (S. Ramírez and J. Padwe verbally) on the main unpaved road that crosses the RNBM west to east, in an area surrounded by tall forest (at 24°07'S, 55°28'W), c. 20 km away from the species' habitual grounds. The presence of the bird in such habitat (although admittedly on the road) is exceptional (the indigenous Aché had never seen this species in the forest) and presumably was due to the fire.

SCALED PIGEON *Columba speciosa*

Hayes (1995) lists only three records for Paraguay (all from Oriental Paraguay). Although the species was already recorded at RNBM (Brooks *et al.* 1993), we have now observed it year-round on many different occasions throughout the reserve, in forests and also islets of forest in the flooded grasslands of the Jejuí'mi river. We judge the species to be uncommon but with a healthy population within the reserve.

HYACINTH MACAW *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus* (T)

All *bona fide* records of this species in Oriental Paraguay are from Dpto. Concepción (see Hayes 1995). A record of "some birds" south of Parque Nacional Cerro Corá (questioned by López 1992 and hence by Hayes 1995) refers to captive birds of uncertain origin (F. Colmán verbally 1995). The three records reported in Madroño N. & Esquivel (1995) extend the species' known range about 200 km to the southeast into Dpto. Canindeyú. The most recent record at RNBM occurred in Aguara Ñu, in an area of *cerrado* vegetation at 24°10'49"S, 55°15'34"W on 18 October 1994, where a single bird was observed by the forest ranger J. C. Almada. These records in Canindeyú suggest that the species perhaps undertakes occasional movements (away from the extensive *cerrado* of Concepción) to other scattered and smaller *cerrado* existing further south (Dptos. of Amambay and Canindeyú) that provide seasonal fruiting of the jataí palm *Butia* sp. (although this fruit has never been reported as part of its diet: Collar *et al.* 1992, N. E. López verbally 1995). That the species undertakes seasonal long-distance movements has already been mentioned (Collar *et al.* 1992), although little information is available.

PHEASANT CUCKOO *Dromococcyx phasianellus*

The following records at the RNBM add Dpto. Canindeyú to the scant number of known localities for this species in Paraguay. A bird was heard (and tape-recorded) on 27 October 1994 at 24°07'20"S, 55°31'41"W (AMN, D. Pullan and R. Denny); one was observed on

16 March 1995 at 24°08'S, 55°31'W; one was heard on 29 August 1995, 1 and 11 September 1995 at 24°07'37"S, 55°31'01"W (AMN). The records above suggest that the species is a rare year-round resident in the area.

MOTTLED OWL *Ciccaba virgata*

There are only two recent records of this owl in Paraguay; Brooks *et al.* (1993) recorded it once at the RNBM (sight record). Since then, we have heard its call many times in high and medium forests in different parts of the reserve throughout the year.

OCELLATED POORWILL *Nyctiphrynus ocellatus*

Hayes (1995) only lists four records for Paraguay (one in 1978 from Dpto. Canindeyú; Storer 1989). We have now recorded the species many times throughout the year (1994–1996) in different areas of the RNBM (most are aural records). Breeding was also confirmed on 27 October 1994 at 24°07'35"S, 55°31'45"W, when an incubating adult (with a single egg) was found on a path in low forest close to low flooded forest (R. Denny, D. Pullan and AMN). The species seems to be uncommon in the reserve (although we believe a healthy population exists), most of the encounters being in tall forest away from the path.

SILKY-TAILED NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus sericocaudatus*

There seem to be only three published records for the country (see Storer 1989). We have heard the species on several occasions at the RNBM: 14 July 1994 (24°08'33"S, 55°20'26"W); 17 and 18 August 1994, 19 November 1994 and 14 February 1995, all at Jejui'mi; and 16 March 1995 at 24°08'S, 55°31'W. The above records, plus another bird heard at Lagunita on 13 September 1995 by AMN, show that the species is an uncommon year-round resident in the RNBM.

LONG-TAILED POTOO *Nyctibius aethereus*

Although twice recorded at the RNBM (see Hayes 1995, Lowen *et al.* in prep.), there are still relatively few records for the country of this secretive species. On 11 February 1995 we had very close views of a silent bird perching and flying (the observation lasted more than 15 minutes) in the *cerrado* area of Aguara Ñu at 24°10'31"S, 55°15'32"W. Between late August and November 1995, a pair was breeding at 24°07'38"S, 55°31'08"W (incubating adults, a nestling and fledged juvenile were observed).

GREY-RUMPED SWIFT *Chaetura cinereiventris*

Hayes (1995) indicates that the species is "apparently present during winter". We have observed Grey-rumped Swifts all year round at the RNBM.

GREEN-AND-RUFIOUS KINGFISHER *Chloroceryle inda*

Hayes (1995) lists four records for Paraguay, the only recent records being from the RNBM in 1992 (Brooks *et al.* 1993). We have found the species regularly throughout the reserve year-round. Our records

also include one active nest (with a minimum of two chicks) found on 29 November 1994 at 24°12'23"S, 55°29'53"W.

PYGMY KINGFISHER *Chloroceryle aenea*

There are only two previous records for the country (Hayes 1995). The finding of the species at the RNBM is the first record in Oriental Paraguay: one bird was briefly observed on 5 November 1994 (EZE), a pair on 11 November 1994 (R. Clay), and one bird on 7 April 1995 (AMN, EZE, P. Donahue and T. Wood). All records were at *c.* 24°08'S, 55°32'W.

COLLARED CRESCENTCHEST *Melanopareia torquata*

There is just one record for the country, from 1938 in Amambay Department (Ridgely & Tudor 1994). We observed one bird in short grassland in the *cerrado* of Aguara Ñu on 9 February 1995 at 24°10'S, 55°15'W. Breeding in the area seems likely as further observations between 14 and 20 September 1995 by the authors and several other ornithologists of "Project Yacutinga '95" showed that several pairs were present (Lowen *et al.* in prep.).

SHARP-TAILED TYRANT *Culicivora caudacuta* (NT)

The species has not been recorded in Oriental Paraguay since 1932 (Hayes 1995). We observed two birds (adult and immature) in grassland at the *cerrado* of Aguara Ñu on 13 February 1995 at 24°09'29"S, 55°17'21"W. Breeding in the area would seem likely, with further observations of the species by the authors and several ornithologists of "Project Yacutinga '95" (one bird mist-netted and photographed) between 14 and 20 September 1995 (Lowen *et al.* in prep.).

BAY-RINGED TYRANNULET *Phylloscartes sylviolus* (NT)

Madroño N. & Esquivel (1995) reported not having found this species after 162 days of fieldwork. It has been previously recorded in the reserve (see FMB 1992, Brooks *et al.* 1993). AMN observed the species on 29 August 1995 at 24°07'37"S, 55°31'01"W, a site where a pair and single birds have subsequently been observed regularly. Earlier in August 1995, D. Finch (verbally 1995) discovered a pair building a nest somewhere to the east (not further than 1 km from the above coordinates). The species is uncommon in the reserve, but probably has a healthy population. It is certainly difficult to detect, due to its habits of moving about high in the canopy and its low-pitched call. It is noteworthy that many of AMN's observations occurred in exactly the same place in a *Copaifera langsdorffii* tree between August 1995 and January 1996, suggesting some degree of seasonal territoriality.

LARGE-HEADED FLATBILL *Ramphotricon megacephala*

There are just two recent records for the country, one of which was at the RNBM (Hayes 1995). We found the species twice in mixed giant bamboo *Guadua* sp. growth on 15 June 1995: one bird heard at 24°15'S, 55°21'W and one seen and heard at 24°15'49"S, 55°22'04"W. The

species was again present at the first locality on 22 and 23 September 1995 (Lowen *et al.* in prep.).

CURL-CRESTED JAY *Cyanocorax cristatellus*

In Paraguay, the species has only been reported in Dpto. Concepción (Ridgely & Tudor 1989). It has now been recorded at the RNBM, with the first record in winter, probably August 1993 (forest rangers J. C. Almada, N. López, T. Osuna, S. Ramírez and R. Villalba). After this sighting, the species has been observed repeatedly in the same area, with our first observation between 9 and 12 February 1995, all in the *cerrado* area of Aguara Ñu at different localities (same general area mentioned above under the Red-legged Seriema). Most of the records refer to small groups of up to ten birds. One exceptional record of two birds occurred probably in December 1994 at Jejuí'mi, in a small clearing surrounded by tall forest *c.* 22 km west of the species' habitual site at Aguara Ñu (S. Ramírez). Two Guaraní Indians inhabiting part of the Aguara Ñu area independently informed us that the species has recently colonised this area from Brazil. It was previously only known to them from over the border in Brazil and thus they named it "Aka'ê Brasil" ("Aka'ê" is the generic Guaraní name for the two other species of *Cyanocorax* present in the area).

BANANAQUIT *Coereba flaveola*

The species was not previously recorded from Dpto. Canindeyú. Records at the RNBM are as follows: one bird on 8 March 1995 (P. Donahue), 13 and 14 March 1995 (AMN and EZE), all at río Jejuí'mi (24°08'32"S, 55°31'34"W).

SILVER-BEAKED TANAGER *Ramphocelus carbo*

The species has only been reported twice in Oriental Paraguay (Hayes 1995). A bird was recorded on 10 March 1995 for the first time at the RNBM, at the río Jejuí'mi (P. Donahue, AMN and EZE).

TEMMINCK'S SEEDEATER *Sporophila falcirostris* (T)

This rare Atlantic Forest endemic bamboo specialist has only previously been recorded in Paraguay in July 1977, west of Saltos del Guairá, Dpto. Canindeyú (Ridgely & Tudor 1989). It has now been found in the southernmost area of the RNBM, where giant bamboo growth is the most extensive. On 15 and 16 June 1995 (note winter date), a singing male was observed at 24°15'52"S, 55°22'02"W, and a second singing bird was heard nearby at 24°15'50"S, 55°22'23"W. A third singing bird was heard more than 1 km away (to the west). All birds exclusively used giant bamboo (*Guadua* sp. not "*Bambusa* sp." as erroneously stated in Madroño N. & Esquivel 1995), and a male was observed eating what were presumably bases of bamboo leaf petioles. Bamboo was certainly neither flowering nor seeding. Only these three birds were detected despite our walking a minimum of 5 km through habitat apparently suitable for the species. Further searches at the above-mentioned localities on 22–23 September 1995 during "Project Yacutinga '95" and in October 1996 did not locate the species.

The survival of the species in the area is in doubt, considering its strong association with giant bamboo forests. Suitable habitat for Temminck's Seedeater in the reserve is relatively restricted (perhaps no more than 5000 ha). The protection of an adjoining fraction of this type of mixed-bamboo forest south of the reserve is judged crucial to the species' long-term survival. This land is certainly the last tract of undisturbed forest around the reserve, with perhaps some 10,000 ha (privately owned). Other threatened bamboo specialists such as the critically threatened Purple-winged Dove *Claravis godefrida* could well be present in the area (recently reported not far away from the reserve in the Dpto. Canindeyú: Lowen *et al.* 1995), and would thus also benefit from any conservation initiatives that seek to expand the reserve's protected area to the south.

MARSH SEEDEATER *Sporophila palustris* (T)

The species has been erroneously reported at the RNBm (Collar *et al.* 1992, Hayes 1995), the bird in question actually being observed at Estancia La Fortuna, Dpto. Canindeyú (P. Scharf *in litt.* 1994, *per* R. Clay). First records for the RNBm occurred on several dates between 22 October and 2 November 1994 at Lagunita (24°08'S, 55°25'W), where up to three males (part of a mixed *Sporophila* flock) were observed (D. Pullan and R. Denny; also AMN, EZE and R. Clay). These dates suggest that this and the following *Sporophila* seedeaters are spring transients (see also Hayes *et al.* 1994). The first week of November also coincides with the arrival on the breeding grounds in Corrientes province, Argentina, of this species together with the sympatric *S. ruficollis*, *S. hypochroma* and *S. cinnamomea* (Pearman & Abadie *in press*).

DARK-THROATED SEEDEATER *Sporophila ruficollis* (NT)

The species was not previously recorded from Dpto. Canindeyú. Records at the RNBm are as follows: two males in *cerrado* vegetation in Aguara Ñu at 24°15'S, 55°15'W on 20 October 1994, and one male (part of a mixed *Sporophila* flock; see above) at Lagunita on 29 October 1994 (AMN).

RUFOUS-RUMPED SEEDEATER *Sporophila hypochroma* (NT)

The species has not been previously reported for Dpto. Canindeyú. Records at the RNBm include at least one male (part of a mixed *Sporophila* flock, see comments under Marsh Seedeater) between 29 October and 2 November 1994 at Lagunita (AMN, D. Pullan, R. Denny, EZE and R. Clay).

CHESTNUT SEEDEATER *Sporophila cinnamomea* (NT)

Records below constitute the first sightings in the RNBm, and the second record for the Dpto. Canindeyú: up to three males in a mixed *Sporophila* flock (see comments under Marsh Seedeater) at Lagunita between 22 October and 2 November 1994 (D. Pullan, R. Denny, AMN and EZE).